

**Ellenvale Junior High
School Advisory Council
November 4, 2025**

1. **Attendance** - Scott Wadden, Adele Poirier, Cindy O'Handley, Denise Shellnut, Jane Roycroft, Colleen Mitchell, Michelle Doolan, Margie Pike, Therese Boudreau-MacKinnon, Grace Gration, Stephen Ojeyele
Regrets: Charmaine Willis
2. **Previous Meeting Minutes** - approved by Denise Shellnut, Jane Roycroft and Colleen Mitchell
3. **Ellenvale SAC Bylaws** - It says in the Bylaws 3 parent representatives but since our school population has grown and we now have 4 grade levels 4 parents works better. We have 4 parents now so we would like to make this change in the Bylaws. SAC approve and now Mr. Wadden will take it to his supervisors for approval. Once that is done it will be signed off on.
4. **Principal's Report** - see attached.

NS Lunch Program - we are seeing some waste due to students not picking up their lunches. Question - Are we able to give any feedback to the provider? Hearing that different regions have different qualities of food. The group we are working with are excellent and we have provided feedback based on what the kids are saying, such as the pizza. They listened and made some improvements. Most kids like the food and there is a good variety. Ms. Hernon is in constant communication with the provider. She is also reaching out to parents if their child is not picking up their lunch.

French For the Future Forum - school will cover the cost of this field trip for grade 9 French Immersion students.

Teacher Professional Development - There was an NSTU conference on Oct 24th and there is another on Dec 4 in the AM with parent teacher conferences in the PM.

5. **Student Success Plan - Literacy, Numeracy, and Student Well-Being**
Literacy - organization and writing is the focus with Ms. Nadeau and Ms. Morash taking the lead as grade 7 ELA teachers. Students are using the hamburger method for writing a paragraph and using other graphic organizers to help them organize their writing.

Numeracy - The focus continues to be in grade 8 with computational fluency where students use different strategies to solve problems then figure out which strategy works best for solving different problems. This is a huge focus and may end up being a focus for the whole year. They have also started using Lock Boxes, which are similar to escape rooms where they need to use math reasoning to solve problems to unlock the box. They are having fun and engaging.

Student Well-Being - safety in the hallways and connections to the building are still the focus. Our goal is for all students to feel safe and part of the school community.

Mr. Wadden presented the goals to HRCE and has received positive feedback to move forward and will write up a report to submit at a later date.

6. New Business

- a) **SAC Provincial Conference** - Nov 28 - Mr. Wadden and Margie Pike will be attending this conference.
- b) **Finances** - SAC grant of \$5640 - we would like to use the money to fund a math support teacher to come in once a week for 22 weeks to work with students who are struggling in math. We have a teacher ready and can start next week if approved. SAC approved this use of funds.
- c) **SAC Innovation Grant** - Equipment has been purchased and is being stored in the school. We are now getting students to participate by using teacher un-instructional time and student ILT time. We are now reaching out to community members who have supported Ellenvale for other arts events, these include Long & McQuade and Tour Tech East. We are looking for sponsorship from them. We are also looking into other local businesses or people who are involved in the arts in Dartmouth to come in and education, do show and tell, provide money, sponsor events, etc. Hopefully this can be long term to support our arts program which will flow into Woodlawn High Schools art program which has declined over the last number of years. The ultimate goal is to have students run our lights and sound systems for all our events, allow them to be the experts and hopefully fuel a passion in the arts.
- d) **Student Fee Report** - there are no student fees again this year. Mr. Wadden feels it is very important to provide opportunities for all students to participate in all events and that money will not be a barrier.
- e) **Other** - It was asked if we know when the construction on Spring Ave will be completed as there is a concern for student safety while walking to and from school. We did receive an email stating that they are nearing a point of paving, so it should all be done soon.

Next meeting will be Dec 9. Meeting adjourned at 4:31.